

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1-5 are currently pending in this application. Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-5 have been amended to more distinctly claim subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. In the specification, paragraph [0024] has been amended to correct the typographical error. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because of the typographical error. The specification has been amended to correct the error. The withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the drawings do not show every feature of the invention. Particularly the Examiner indicated that it is not clear whether the socks or shoes are shown. Figure 1 shows the protection gear which includes insecticide shoes, socks or stockings for covering the feet or shoes. The element with a reference number 7 in Figure 1 may be shoes, socks or stockings. In addition, in claim 2, the limitation "socks" is removed to more clearly

define the invention. Therefore, the withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112, first paragraph

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner indicated that it is not clear whether a garment system is being claimed with multiple components or is separate insect garments are being claimed. The present invention claims a garment system including one or more separable components. Claim 1 claims a protection gear, (i.e., an insect repelling garment) which comprises a protection net and a fastener. The protection net may comprise, as claimed in claim 2, a plurality of separate pieces, (e.g., a cap, a mask, sleeves, an upper garment, etc.). It is clearly described in the specification including a paragraph 0018.

The Examiner also indicated that the description regarding "elastic band" is not clear. The limitation "elastic band" has been removed in claim 3.

The Examiner also indicated that it is not clear whether the net includes an adhesive to have insects adhere thereto for entrapping the insects or whether the net includes the adhesive to attach the net to a base frame. As shown in Figures 2 and 3, the protection net may comprise a frame and a net. As one embodiment, the present invention discloses that one surface of the net may be an adhesive surface so that the net may be attached to the frame for use and removed from the frame

after use. As an alternative embodiment, the other surface of the net may be coated with an adhesive to capture the insects and the adhesive may contain an attractant, an insecticide and/or an insect repellant. Therefore, one surface of the net may be adhesive to be attached to the frame and the other surface of the net may be adhesive to capture the insects. It is clearly described in paragraphs 0033-0035.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-5 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite and failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The Examiner indicated that claim 1 is not clear whether separate garments or a garment system with separable components are claimed. As explained above, the present invention claims a garment system with one or more separable components.

The Examiner indicated claim 2 is confusing. Claim 2 has been amended to remove a mantle, shoulder strap, waistcoat, overskirt with slits, belt, or wrist strap, etc. All the elements of the amended claim 2 are shown in Figure 1 and described in paragraph 0024.

In addition, alternate components in claims have been removed by the foregoing claim amendments.

Therefore, the withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-5 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,344,811 to Gill, (hereinafter "Gill"). The Examiner asserts that Gill discloses a protective garment and the surface of Gill includes an insecticide as broadly claimed. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 1 as presently amended recites a protection net coated with at least one of an insecticide and an insect repellent using a binder. Gill fails to disclose a protection net coated with an insecticide or an insect repellent using a binder. Gill discloses an insect repelling garment and the garment is made of an insect repelling fabric. The insect repelling effect in Gill is provided by the combination of the netting and an underlying supporting web. Gill discloses as follows:

I am aware of the fact that heretofore various forms of insect-repelling fabrics or mosquito nettings have been provided but most of these ... have been subject to the defect that in use they lie too closely upon or adjacent the skin or clothing and thus allow mosquitoes and other insects to bite therethrough without difficulty. (See page 1, left column, lines 11-18).

... the underlying supporting web structure 11-12 has substantial depth, that is ... relatively thick compared to the thickness of the netting ... This prevents mosquitoes and other insects from readily penetrating through the new netting ... (See page 2, left column, lines 3-11).

The problem that Gill intends to solve is that the then-conventional netting lies too close to a skin or cloth of a human so that the insects may penetrate the netting easily. In order to solve the problem, Gill discloses a garment including an underlying web to maintain a certain distance from the skin or cloth of the human body so that the insects may not reach the skin through the netting.

However, Gill does not disclose repelling harmful insects with insecticide or insect repellent coated on the netting. With respect to the material of the netting and the web, Gill states:

These strips 11 and 12 are preferably formed of sponge rubber, or other suitable or analogous material ... (See page 1, right column, lines 2-4).

Overlying the underlying supporting web structure 11-12 is a fabric netting 13 which may be formed of cotton or other suitable material now used as mosquito netting and having sufficient strength to enable it to be made into articles of wear, ... (See page 1, right column, lines 11-16).

The Examiner's assertion that the surface of the Gill fabric includes an insecticide is incorrect. The netting and the underlying web in Gill is made of cotton and rubber, respectively. Gill fails to disclose a netting with an insecticide or repellent coating. As indicated above, the insect repelling effect in Gill is achieved by the physical spacing effect of the combination of the netting and the underlying web, not by an insecticide or insect repellent coated on the netting.

Therefore, claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from Gill. The withdrawal of the §102 rejection is respectfully requested.

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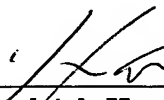
Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Gill in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,249,307 to Lemoine and U.S. Patent No. 5,249,310 to Forte. Claims 3-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Gill in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,424,642 to Stubler.

As indicated hereinbefore, Gill is clearly distinguishable from claim 1. Therefore, it is believed that dependent claims 2-5 are also patentable for the same reason stated above and the withdrawal of the §103 rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure